

that are necessary because of my present position in the Party, from my personal funds.

This system of using the Executive Assembly has been employed all over the country. There has always been a President's Club in Washington financed exactly the same way. There is a Governor's Club in the State of New York that operates substantially the same way and there are Governor's Clubs in many other states of this country.

I do feel that the articles in the paper I refer to are a little harsh. And I think they are misleading and I thought it was necessary for me to clarify these things.

There isn't any doubt that the people who belong to this thousand dollar club are people of some affluence. And there isn't any doubt that these people are politically oriented as the article says. For one reason or another some people just gravitate to politics; they like it, they participate in it, and they have the means to do so. I make no excuses for encouraging them to contribute to the Republican Party. And that's about the situation.

I will say this, that they got no special treatment. We have a Republican Founders Club. We had an affair at the Mansion for them that was financed by State Central Committee funds recently also. I also entertain other people at my own expense, for one reason or another, who have nothing to contribute. So, that's basically the story.

Questions and Answers

Q. Governor, when was the Executive Assembly organized?

A. Well, I'm not sure of the exact date but I think it was organized some time in January. And not only was it organized in January, but every member of the news media in this room — or every one of your employers — was furnished with a copy of the Republican Banner, which is the official publication of the Republican Party, which indicated that it had been organized and how it was to function, and I am amazed that the story is just surfacing.

(National Politics)

Q. Governor, as a result of Mr. Nixon's visit yesterday have you changed your views or position at all insofar as whom you'll support?

A. No, I have not. I'm still a Favorite Son.